

FINAL

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Crowe-Garritt House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 172 Crowe Street \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Hanover \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district 9th

state Indiana code 018 county Jefferson code 077

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Storage

**4. Owner of Property**

name Hanover College

street & number

city, town Hanover \_\_\_ vicinity of state Indiana 47243

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jefferson County Courthouse

street & number Main at Jefferson

city, town Madison state Indiana 47250

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title None has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance** The Crowe-Garritt House is a two story frame structure which displays the growth and evolution of a vernacular farm house into a more formal residence during the early 19th century. The original structure had a five bay facade, slightly asymmetrical, but having a balanced proportional relationship. As the house was enlarged, a more rigid symmetry was created by the addition of a two story veranda and one story extensions from each end of the facade. A two story ell was added to the central block of the residence, also of frame construction. All roofs of the house are gabled. Window sash in the original part and the additions are mostly 6 over 6, double-hung, with very narrow muntins. The veranda on the facade has six wooden columns on each floor. The first floor columns are of a more substantial proportion, square, with simple Greek Revival capital. The second floor columns are chamfered posts with simple ornamental, gingerbread brackets paired at each column. The porch rail is a wooden lattice. There are four chimneys on the house, one at each end of the central, two story portion, one at the end of the west wing, and one enclosed at the central wall of the ell.

The balusters, railing and newel post on the main stairway in the entry hall have been removed, although it is possible that remnants may be found in the attic or basement. Other decorative elements in the interior include two Federal mantel pieces in the principal rooms flanking the entrance hall, a decorative baseboard throughout the main portion of the house, and, most notably, croisettes at the upper corners of the interior doors and windows. The remaining hardware was mass produced in the late 19th century. All of the original light fixtures are gone. Floors throughout the house are random width, tongue-and-groove poplar. The walls were plastered over hand split lath. There is a cellar beneath most of the house. A basement fireplace and simple room finish beneath the one story addition on the west of the facade may indicate the location of a basement cooking kitchen. The fireplace is of the same stone as the foundation of the house and has a very large fire box, approximately 3½ feet wide.

Structurally, the Crowe-Garritt House has been altered in the course of expansion of the original house. Addition of the ell included a compact interior rear stairway and a two story porch, now partially fallen in. A small bay was added at the rear of the west wing, probably in the 1890s and some modifications were made for the installation of indoor plumbing. Basically, however, the historic fabric of the house remains mostly intact. The site includes .717 acres of gently sloping land with a variety of mature native trees, including poplar, persimmon, black walnut and maple.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)** The Crowe-Garritt House is significant to the history of Hanover College as its place of origin, and as the home of its founder and two other persons long associated with the College.

The Crowe-Garritt House was the residence of John Finley Crowe from 1824 to 1860, of his son-in-law, Joshua Bolles Garritt, from 1860 to 1918, and Garritt's daughter, Leila, from 1918 to 1934. Crowe founded a school that later became Hanover College, the oldest four year liberal arts college in Indiana, on January 1, 1827, when two boys appeared in a loom house a few feet away from Crowe's home. A bronze marker was erected on the spot and dedicated at Hanover College's centennial celebration in 1927. It is on land belonging to the house. Crowe came to Hanover as pastor of the Hanover Presbyterian Church in 1823, one year before he built a two-room cabin which came to be a two story, ten room structure by the time he died in 1860. Crowe was vice-president of Hanover College, a member of its faculty, and college agent in charge of raising money.

Joshua Garritt, who taught Greek and Latin at the College for 50 years, remodeled the house somewhat but did not change the basic structure. He is at the top of the list of Hanover's professors with the longest tenure of teaching. Leila Garritt was Hanover College's librarian for 26 years (1885-1911). She was active in making plans for Hanover's first library building that was completed in 1903.

After 110 years in the Crowe-Garritt families, the house was sold in 1934 and nearly razed in 1961 when the purchaser finally deeded it to Hanover College, thanks to the efforts of several alumni. It was again scheduled for demolition by the College in July, 1979. However, the following month Robert Ireland, a former member of the Hanover College faculty, secured an option to buy the property. He hopes to preserve it as a private residence.

The house, together with the church (then called the College Edifice), was the center of the Hanover campus until 1857, when the College moved a half-mile east to its present campus overlooking the Ohio River Valley. It housed as guests many prominent people. Among them were Crowe's grandsons, John and Stanley Coulter, internationally known biologists, who lived with their uncle and aunt while attending Hanover College, 1866-1871.

The home's stately, two story porch has been a Hanover landmark for generations of Hanoverians.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

In the Hanover College Archives are manuscript letters and documents written by Crowe's daughter, Esther, and by three of his grandchildren, Mary VanNuys, Leila Garritt, and Joshua C. Garritt. The first two chapters of John G. Coulter's book, The Dean (West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University Alumni Association, 1940) treat Crowe briefly, discuss the

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .717 acres

Quadrangle name Madison West, Indiana-Kentucky

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 

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6	3	2
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9	7	0
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4	2	8	6
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0	8	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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D 

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**Verbal boundary description and justification** Beginning at the north side of Crowe Street 20.2 feet west of where the half section line crosses Crowe Street; thence north 77 degrees 52 minutes west 292.6 feet to the corner of I. Eisan's east line; thence north 9 degrees 2 minutes east 111.5 feet; thence south 77 degrees 52 minutes east 275.6 feet to the west side of a 40 foot

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert E. Ireland

organization Holder of option to buy the property date November 8, 1979

street & number P.O. Box 377 telephone  

city or town Hanover state Indiana 47243

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 8-1-80

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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founding of the college, and treat extensively John M. Coulter and Stanley Coulter's experiences while students at Hanover College. One of the appendices to Frank S. Baker's book, The Hanover Presbyterian Church, 1820-1970 (Mentone, IN: Superior Printing Co., 1970) is entitled, "The Crowe-Garritt House." It was prepared from the manuscript materials mentioned above, plus other data from Sadie Crowe Gilchrist Allison, a great granddaughter of Crowe. In Baker's Glimpses of Hanover's Past (Seymour, IN: Graessle-Mercer Co., 1978) there is extensive data on Crowe (pp. 22-28, 80-84), on Joshua Bolles Garritt (163-165), and on Leila Garritt (154-156).

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street; thence south 110 feet to the place of beginning, containing .717 acres.

